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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: REGIONAL DISARMAMENT

Letter dated 10 July 1996 from the Permanent Representatives of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a joint statement of the Heads of Government of the Baltic States on the Vienna conclusions of the Review Conference on the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (see annex). This document was adopted by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia, the Minister President of the Republic of Latvia and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania at a meeting held at Vilnius on 16 June 1996.

We should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 71 (g) of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Trivimi VELLISTE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Estonia to the
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(Signed) Aivars BAUMANIS
Ambassador
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(Signed) Oskaras JUSYS
Ambassador
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* A/51/150.

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ANNEX

Joint statement issued at Vilnius on 16 June 1996 by the Heads of Government of the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Lithuania on the Vienna conclusions of the Review Conference on the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe

During our meeting on 16 June 1996 at Vilnius, we, the Heads of Government of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, discussed the Vienna conclusions of the Review Conference on the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE).

We welcomed the preservation of the CFE Treaty as one of the cornerstones of the European security.

We noted with satisfaction the strengthening of the mechanisms of verification and inspection as well as intensified exchange of military information agreed upon in the Review Conference.

We expressed our concern about the decisions which create conditions for an increase in the concentration of the armed forces in the Baltic region.

We noted the lack of political consultations before and during the CFE Treaty Review Conference between the CFE member States and other legitimately concerned countries.

We called for reiterated political support and increased technical assistance from the United States of America and West European countries pertaining to the integration of the Baltic States into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and European institutions.

Tiit VAHI	Andris ŠKELE	Mindaugas STANKEVIČIUS
Prime Minister	Minister President	Prime Minister
Republic of Estonia	Republic of Latvia	Republic of Lithuania